July 15th
Martyrs Kyrikos & His Mother Julitta of Tarsus
Stichera at the Praises

Byzantine Chant Tone 8
Special melody: O strange wonder

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih
from various sources

1) O strange wonder! How that haughty mind, that ancient
serpent and fiend, and the dragon on that
spawned all ill, hath been hurled upon the ground
and is trampled and thrashed to dust by a small
three-year-old in his mother's arms,
who hath been strengthened by Christ with might divine
and with a manly mind thinketh nothing of the ever-scheming foe, as a strengthless sparrow
mocked and made ridiculous.

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2) Martyr Julitta most glorious, thou hast been right ly set forth as a great and il lus tri ous pat tern of true pi e ty unto moth ers of up right mind. For when thou saw est the child thy womb had born con test ing with thee and bap tized in his blood, thou most cou ra ge ous ly bar est sharp ma ternal rend ings for Christ's sake; with Whom as thou reign est as a queen, re mem ber us.
3) At your endurance and bravery, the holy
Angels were awed, demons quaked with exceeding fear, and the idols' champions,
in their fight against God himself, stood up against you with malice and despite,
but fell back broken in shame and full defeat.
Wherefore, on raising up shining trophies in your fight for piety, ye were crowned by Christ with diadems of victory.

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